

MICHAEL F. EASLEY GOVERNOR

## PUBLIC HEALTH MONTH

2008

## BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, we hereby recognize and acknowledge 128 years of public health service to the residents of North Carolina, and the immeasurable contribution of these services to the quality of life in our State; and

WHEREAS, public health measures to control and eliminate infectious diseases, improve environmental sanitation, and promote healthy lifestyle practices have been the greatest cause of improved health status and increased life expectancy for North Carolina's residents; and

WHEREAS, a continued focus on prevention has resulted in a 16 percent decline in heart disease since 2000, a 22 percent decline in stroke deaths since 2000, and a 17 percent decline in the teen pregnancy rate among minorities since 2000; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's public health system is a critical component of the state's emergency response capacity, particularly with respect to the threat of terrorist-sponsored attacks on North Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2008, as "PUBLIC HEALTH MONTH" in North Carolina and urge our citizens to recognize that public health is working to ensure that all North Carolinians are protected from threats such as influenza, food borne disease and cardiovascular disease.



MICHAEL F. EASLEY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-sixth day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.